

USSR

Reference: 3/PPDT/T-1

INTELLIGENTSIA AND THE I GROUP (1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 812

25th July 40

To DIRECTOR.

I have met representatives of the I GROUP [GRUPPA IKB][i]. This is [a] [ii] [iii]),

. He reported that he had been detailed to organise work with me, but that he had not yet obtained a single contact. I came to an agreement with him about the work and pointed out the importance of speed. He (INTELLIGENTSIA [INTELLIGENTSIYA][iv]) reported the following:

1. HITLER's speech [v] will not make a great impression here. The press has taken it unfavourably. He considers that the SAUSAGE-DEALERS [KOLBASNIKI][vi] were given their answer earlier by CHURCHILL since the SAUSAGE-DEALERS' conditions passed to the British through KHOSKHOV [vii] and WILSON [viii] proved unacceptable. HALIFAX's speech [ix] was not only an additional answer to the SAUSAGE-DEALERS but [also][b] the outline of a political programme. The slogan "For Christianity" is similar to one of the conditions in ROOSEVELT's declaration on the freedom of religion, will also impress PÉTAIN, FRANCO and the Pope and has an anti-fascist edge [to it][b]. INTELLIGENTSIA considers that there is an anti-SAUSAGE-DEALER mood in the army and the knowledge [of this][b] is so strong that the Conservative Party is afraid of risking talking about peace. They might start talks if Britain were to suffer some serious defeat or the SAUSAGE-DEALERS start effective bombing. CHURCHILL continues to stay the main figure of the war in the SAUSAGE-DEALERS' eyes, but he intends [c] but is supporting CHAMBERLAIN's group so as to give the anti-SAUSAGE-DEALER mood no chance of developing into a movement of the left.

2. Generals IRONSIDE [x] and GORT [xi] were removed from the leadership because at a parliamentary [C% secret session] on the question of the cause of the defeat in FLANDERS the Minister of Supply proved with documents that the Expeditionary Force [EXPEDITION] was supplied 100 percent in accordance with the instructions of these generals, who are personally responsible for the [B% development] of the mechanized armies.

No. 200

MARCH [xii]

Notes: [a] The translation of this could possibly be "[In] this is", i.e. in this group is; the plural "representatives" in the first sentence is certainly correctly recovered and seems odd otherwise.

[b] Inserted by translator.

[c] Part of the text has obviously been omitted here.

Comments: [i] I GROUP: Not identified; see also MOSCOW's No. 450 of 7th September 1940, and LONDON's Nos. 895 of 16th August 1940, 987 of 6th September 1940, 1071 of 26th September 1940, 1099 of 2nd October 1940 and 1188 of 18th October 1940.

✓ [ii]

See also

LONDON's Nos. 895 of 16th August 1940, 987 of 6th September 1940, 1099 of 2nd October 1940, 1149 of 11th October 1940 and 1165 of 15th October 1940.

✓ [iii]

✓ [iv] INTELLIGENCE:

[ii].

[v] HITLER's speech: to the REICHSTAG on 19th July 1940.

✓ [vi] SAUSAGE-DEALERS: the Germans.

✓ [vii] KHOSKHOR: Not identified.

✓ [viii] WILSON: Sir Horace WILSON, Chief Industrial Adviser to CHAMBERLAIN. He acted as a special envoy between the latter and HITLER.

[ix] HALIFAX's speech: the Earl of HALIFAX's speech of 22nd July 1940 on the radio.

[x] IRONSIDE: General IRONSIDE, Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

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[xi] GORT: General Lord GORT, commander of the British

- [xii] BARCH: Possibly Simon Davidovich KREMER, whose official post was Secretary to the Soviet Military Attaché in LONDON. He was appointed in 1937 and is thought to have left sometime in 1946. The covername BARCH occurs as a LONDON addressee and signatory between 3rd March 1940 and 10th October 1940, after which it is superseded by the covername UNION.